

Right Guide

This column is designated to give official VA answers to veterans' readjustment problems. Send questions to RIGHT GUIDE, 1380 Sepulveda Blvd., Los Angeles 25, California.

Veterans with permanent service-connected disabilities do not lose their compensation, or any part of it, by taking a job. Compensation is the award made by the federal government to veterans who suffered physical disabilities in line of duty. The amount of the award depends upon the percentage of that disability and not upon any income the service-connected disabled may earn.

Thousands of physically handicapped veterans in the area of the Los Angeles VA regional office are missing opportunities for vocational rehabilitation offered them by the government because of their misunderstanding of compensation laws. They have heard rumors they will lose "their comp" if they are on the payroll. In refutation of these rumors the cases of hundreds of disabled veterans could be cited. More than 5,000 permanently disabled veterans have finished vocational rehabilitation training in the Los Angeles VA area. Additional thousands have studied and planned for productive futures while being hospitalized. Now these veterans are filling responsible positions in hundreds of vocational classifications and they have not lost any part of their compensation because they are drawing salaries from their jobs.

Every effort is being made in and out of VA hospitals to rehabilitate vocationally these veterans "who paid a greater price for their service." They, above all others, deserve the right to normal living. Congress has passed special rehabilitation laws for them. One of the major items in General Omar N. Bradley's program is to give them every possible assistance in their fight to vocational proficiency. General Bradley in his recent "Message About Compensation," said:

"It has come to my attention that from time to time false information has been given to veterans with service-connected disabilities in our hospitals concerning the fact that the veteran is liable to suffer a reduction in his compensation if he takes a job and receives remuneration for it. This is untrue.

"Any handicapped veteran with a service-connected disability may take a position and receive pay for it and still receive full benefits for his permanent disability. The basic statutes and regulations specifically provide that there shall be no reduction in the rate of compensation for individual success in overcoming the handicap of an injury.

"It is my hope that all veterans will take advantage of the medical rehabilitation program while they are still in hospitals, in order that they may find a job which they want to do and which is within their physical capacities. I believe that any of our severely injured veterans who liked the enemy and in turn have liked their disabilities, can also win a major victory by learning and holding a job.

"We hope to do our part so well that they will be able to leave the hospital self-sufficient, independent citizens. Service-connected permanently disabled veterans will continue to receive their compensation."

Many New Firms In California, Report Reveals

Frank M. Jordan, Secretary of State, has announced the year 1946 not only broke all annual records for the number of new corporations qualifying in California, but more than doubled the previous all-time high established in 1930.

The record smashing total for 1946 was 11,412, averaging 951 per month and representing an increase of 6,729 or 144 per cent over 4,683 filed in 1945. In 1944 only 2,827 new corporations filed. In 1943 but 2,103 qualified, the lowest year since 1930. The 1930 record was 5,483.

Southern California is the location of 7,825 of the 11,412 corporations, or 68.6 per cent of the total. Los Angeles county alone claimed 6,089 of the Southern California figure, being 61.2 per cent of the state's total and 90 per cent of the Southland.

Out-of-state corporations qualifying to do business in California increased from 386 in 1944 and 430 in 1945 to 780 in 1946, Jordan announced.

States credited with the greatest number of California qualifications were Delaware 195, Nevada 163, New York 125 and Illinois 64.

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